

of prior U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/481,901 filed on January 12, 2000 entitled ~~Library Service Port~~, now U.S. Patent No. 6,409,450.

On page 4, at line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

--Figure 3a is a partial overhead cross-sectional view of another data storage library showing the robotic mechanism entering the service port;--

On page 4, after line 2, please insert the following paragraph:

--Figure 4a is a partial overhead cross-sectional view of another data storage library showing the robotic mechanism inside the service port;--

On page 5, in line 22, after "states.", please insert the following:

-- (See, e.g., Figures 3a and 4a showing door 122 sliding between open and closed states, respectively, as robotic mechanism 110a enters service port 116.)--

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice. Please add new claims 18-23 as shown below. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (New) A data storage library comprising:

a housing defining an exterior and an interior region;

a robotic mechanism disposed in the interior region;

a plurality of storage cells disposed in the interior region for storing data cartridges;

a service port disposed through the housing for permitting access to at least part of the robotic mechanism from the exterior region, and for blocking access to the data cartridges when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port.

19. (New) The data storage library of claim 18 wherein, to block access to the data cartridges when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port, the service port comprises a geometry that prohibits personnel from reaching from the exterior region through the service port to the interior region to reach data storage cartridges.

20. (New) The data storage library of claim 18 wherein, to block access to the data cartridges when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port, the robotic mechanism comprises a shield that prohibits personnel from reaching from the exterior region through the service port to the interior region to reach data storage cartridges.

21. (New) The data storage library of claim 18 wherein, to block access to the data cartridges when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port, service port comprises a geometry and the robotic mechanism comprises a shield that prohibit personnel from reaching from the exterior region through the service port to the interior region to reach data storage cartridges.

22. (New) The data storage library of claim 18 further comprising a door disposed across the service port, the door having a closed position for blocking access to the data cartridges when the robotic mechanism is not aligned with the service port, wherein the door opens automatically to permit access to the at least part of the robotic mechanism when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port.

23. (New) The data storage library of claim 22 further comprising a sensor for sensing alignment between the robotic mechanism and the service port and for generating a signal for use in automatically opening the door when the robotic mechanism is aligned with the service port.